## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An image reproducing apparatus <u>with multiple</u> <u>applications,</u> comprising:

suspending means that suspend a prescribed operation regarding image reproduction;

releasing means that release the image reproducing apparatus from the suspended state;

a job accepting unit that accepts multiple types of image-reproduction-related jobs in parallel;

a determination unit that, when an execution start request for a first job is received at the job accepting unit after the release from the suspended state, ~~determines~~ <u>re-queries each</u> <u>of the multiple applications to determine</u> whether a second job with a higher priority than the first job is executable among said multiple types of jobs; and

a control unit that<u>, after the release from the suspended state, instructs the</u> <u>determination unit to re-query each of the multiple applications as to whether there is any job</u> <u>execution start request, and that</u> withholds execution of the first job if <u>there is a request for</u> the second job <u>with the higher priority that</u> is executable.


Claim 2 (Original): The image reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

the suspending means suspend paper ejection to a prescribed paper-eject tray; and

when the execution start request for the first job that requires paper ejection to said prescribed paper-eject tray is received at the job accepting unit after the release from the suspended state, the determination unit determines whether the second job that requires paper ejection to the prescribed paper-eject tray and that has the higher priority than the first job is executable among said multiple types of jobs.

Claim 3 (Original): The image reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a timer, wherein:

when the execution start request for the first job is received at the job accepting unit after the release from the suspended state, the timer starts counting a prescribed time;

the determination unit determines whether a second execution start request for the second job with the higher priority than the first job is generated within the prescribed time; and

the control unit withholds execution of the first job if the second execution start request for the second job is generated within the prescribed time and if the second job is executable.

Claim 4 (Original): The image reproducing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein if the second execution start request for the second job is not generated within the prescribed time, or if the second job is not executable, then the control unit allows the first job to be executed.

Claim 5 (Original): The image reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein different types of applications are installed in the apparatus, and said multiple types of jobs are generated from said different types of applications.

Claim 6 (Original): The image reproducing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein:

when the execution start request for the first job is received at the job accepting unit after the release from the suspended state, the determination unit inquires of each of the

applications about whether there is another execution start request for the second job with the

higher priority than the first job;

if there is said other execution start request for the second job in any of the

applications, the determination unit further determines whether the second job is executable;

and

if the second job is executable, the control unit withholds execution of the first job.

Claim 7 (Original): The image reproducing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein

the releasing means release the image reproducing apparatus from the suspended state when

the prescribed paper-eject tray returns to a predetermined position.

Claim 8 (Original): The image reproducing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein

the job accepting unit receives a third execution start request for a third job that requires

paper ejection to a tray other than said prescribed paper-eject tray, and the determination unit

allows the control unit to cause the third job to be executed, without determining the higher

priority between the third job and the first job.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): An image reproducing method with multiple

applications, comprising the steps of:

accepting multiple types of image-reproduction-related jobs in parallel in an image

reproducing apparatus;

receiving a first instruction for suspending a prescribed operation regarding image

reproduction;

receiving a second instruction for releasing the image reproducing apparatus from the

suspended state;

when receiving an execution start request for a first job after the release from the

suspended state, ~~determining~~ re-querying each of the multiple applications to determine,

based on a job execution start request, whether there is a second job with a higher priority

than the first job among said multiple types of jobs;

if there is the second job, determining whether the second job is executable; and

if the second job is executable, withholding execution of the first job if there is a

request for the second job with the higher priority that is executable, while executing the

second job.


Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The image reproducing method according to claim

9, wherein:

the first instruction is for suspending paper ejection to a prescribed paper-eject tray;

when the execution start request for the first job requiring paper ejection to said

paper-eject tray after the release from the suspended state is received, determining whether

there is the second job that requires paper ejection to said paper-eject tray and has the higher

priority than the first job among said multiple type of jobs.


Claim 11 (Original): The image reproducing method according to claim 9, further

comprising the steps of:

installing different types of image-reproduction-related applications in the image

reproducing apparatus;

accepting said multiple types of image-reproduction-related jobs in parallel from the

different types of applications;

when receiving the execution start request from the first job after the release from the suspended state, inquiring of each of the applications whether there is another execution start request; and

based on the inquiry, determining whether there is a second execution start request for the second job with higher priority than the first job.

Claim 12 (Original): The image reproducing method according to claim 10, further comprising the steps of:

receiving a third execution request for a third job that requires paper ejection to a tray other than said paper-eject tray; and

executing the third job without determining the higher priority between the first job and the third job.

Claim 13 (New): An image reproducing apparatus with multiple applications, comprising:

a suspension unit configured to suspend a prescribed image reproduction operation;

a releasing unit configured to release the image reproducing apparatus from the suspended state;

a job accepting unit configured to accept multiple types of image-reproduction-related jobs;

a determination unit that, when the job accepting unit accepts an execution start request for a first job after the release of the image reproducing apparatus from the suspended state, is configured to re-query each of the multiple applications to determine whether a second job with a higher priority than the first job is executable among said multiple types of jobs; and

a control unit configured to instruct the determination unit to re-query each of the

multiple applications as to whether there is any job execution start request after the release

from the suspended state and configured to withhold execution of the first job if the second

job with the higher priority is executable, and to allow another job to be executed if the

second job with the higher priority is not executable.

Claim 14 (New): The image reproducing apparatus according to claim 13, further

comprising:

a timer, wherein

when the execution start request for the first job is received at the job accepting unit

after the release from the suspended state, the timer starts counting a predetermined time,

the determination unit determines whether a second execution start request for the

second job with the higher priority than the first job is generated within the predetermined

time, and

the control unit withholds execution of the first job if the second execution start

request for the second job is generated within the prescribed time and if the second job is

executable.

Claim 15 (New): The image reproducing apparatus according to claim 14, wherein, if

the second execution start request for the second job is not generated within the

predetermined time, or if the second job is not executable, then the control unit allows the

first job to be executed.

Claim 16 (New): The image reproducing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein

different types of applications are installed in the image reproducing apparatus,

said multiple types of jobs are generated from said different types of applications,

when the execution start request for the first job is received at the job accepting unit

after the release from the suspended state, the determination unit inquires of each of the

applications about whether there is another execution start request for the second job with the

higher priority than the first job,

if there is said other execution start request for the second job in any of the

applications, the determination unit further determines whether the second job is executable,

and

if the second job is executable, the control unit withholds execution of the first job.


Claim 17 (New): The image reproducing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein

the job accepting unit receives a third execution start request for a third job that

requires paper ejection to a tray other than said prescribed paper-eject tray, and

the determination unit allows the control unit to cause the third job to be executed

without determining the higher priority between the third job and the first job.


Claim 18 (New): The image reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a

job execution start request from an external source is received during the suspended state of

the image reproducing apparatus.


Claim 19 (New): The image reproducing method according to claim 9, further

comprising:

receiving the job execution start request from a source external to the image

reproducing apparatus when the image reproducing apparatus is in the suspended state.

Claim 20 (New): The image reproducing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein a job execution start request from an external source is received during the suspended state of the image reproducing apparatus.